

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OPR-02 A-01 SCS-03 SCA-01 DHA-02 OES-03

FS-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 EUR-12 SY-05 AID-05 OMB-01 OC-05 CCO-00

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O 140940Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7428

NASA HEADQUARTERS WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TANANARIVE 1225

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NASA, PFOR, MA, UF

REF: TANANARIVE 1224

1. QUOTE EXCELLENCY:

THE COMMENTS THAT FOLLOW ARE TENDED TO SERVE AS AN AIDE MEMOIRE FOR THOSE ADDITIONAL POINTS I HAVE MADE TODAY IN THE PRESENTATION TO YOU OF OUR NOTE NO. 145. WHILE I HAVE MADE THESE POINTS TO YOU ORALLY IN FRENCH, MY WRITTEN COMMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN TRANSLATED INTO FRENCH TO SAVE TIME AND TO INSURE THE PRIVACY OF THIS COMMUNICATION; IT HAS NOT BEEN SEEN BY ANY MALAGASY EMPLOYEE OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY.

'1. THE EMBASSY PLANS TO BEGIN DEPARTURE OF ALL THE WIVES AND CHILDREN OF NASA EMPLOYEES ON SUNDAY, THE 20TH OF JULY UTILIZING NORMAL COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT. HOWEVER, SINCE THIS IS A PEAK TRAVEL SEASON, WE WILL HAVE TO MAKE SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE AIRLINES. TO FACILITATE THEIR DEPARTURE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS MAKING EVERY EFFORT
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TO EXPEDITE THEIR EXIT VISAS AND OTHER EXIT DOCUMENTATION.

2. NOT ALL OF THE WIVES AND CHILDREN OF NASA EMPLOYEES ARE AMERICAN CITIZENS; SOME ARE MALAGASY NATIONALS AND THERE

ARE ALSO OTHER NATIONALITIES. THE EMBASSY WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE ASSISTANCE IN EXPEDITING THEIR EXIT DOCUMENTATION.

3. IT WILL

BE NECESSARY FOR EMPLOYEES--BOTH AMERICAN AND MALAGASY--TO BE PERMITTED TO REENTER THE STATION TO BEGIN PACKING AND CLOSING OF THE STATION AND TO BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH THE FOLLOWING:

'A. THE EMBASSY AND NASA PLAN TO KEEP AS MANY MALAGASY EMPLOYEES WORKING AS LONG AS POSSIBLE WHILE CLOSING THE STATION TO PERMIT THEM TO SEEK NEW EMPLOYMENT.

'B. NASA WILL UNDERTAKE TO PAY ALL WAGES AND OTHER ENTITLEMENTS TO MALAGASY EMPLOYEES IN ACCORD WITH THE MALAGASY LABOR CODE.

'C. ALL UNITED STATES EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES NO LONGER REQUIRED BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT THAT IS LEFT AT THE STATION WILL BE TURNED OVER TO THE MALAGASY GOVERNMENT UNDAMAGED.

'D. NASA WILL LIQUIDATE ALL OUTSTANDING DEBTS TO MALAGASY COMPANIES AND CONTRACTORS FOR WHICH BILLS HAVE BEEN PRESENTED AND ARE AT THE STATION.

'E. NASA EMPLOYEES WILL RESTORE ELECTRIC POWER AT THE STATION WHICH HAS INTERRUPTED THE FLOW OF WATER TO THE NEARBY VILLAGE AND HOSPITAL, SAFETY LIGHTING INCLUDING AIRCRAFT WARNING LIGHTS, AND BATTERY CHARGING POWER FOR PTT MICROWAVE RELAY STATION WHICH IS LOCATED ON NASA GROUNDS.

'F. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS NO OBJECTION TO THE CONTINUED PRESENCE OF SOME SECURITY PERSONNAL AT THE STATION WHILE CLOSING AND THE ABOVE STEPS ARE UNDERWAY.

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'4. UNITED STATES AND NASA EMPLOYEES WILL LEAVE MADAGASCAR AS SOON AS THEY ARE NO LONGER NEEDED TO ASSIST IN CLOSING OF THE STATION AND SOME WILL LEAVE IMMEDIATELY.

5. IT MAY BE USEFUL FOR NASA TO SEND A SMALL NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES WHO ARE EXPERTS IN LOGISTICS TO ASSIST IN PREPARING EQUIPMENT FOR SHIPMENT. THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO EXPEDITE THEIR ENTRY VISAS.

6. THE EMBASSY WISHES TO REITERATE ITS REQUEST FOR POLICE PROTECTION FOR THE EMBASSY, CULTURAL CENTER, AND RESIDENCE OF THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES AS REQUESTED IN THE EMBASSY'S NOTE OF JULY 1, 197.

THE EMBASSY HAS NO OBJECTION TO THOSE POINTS MARKED WITH AN ASTERISK (*) ABOVE BEING STATED AS DEMANDS OF THE MALAGASY GOVERNMENT TO WHICH THE EMBASSY HAS AGREED AD REFERENDUM IF SO DOING IS HELPFUL TO THE MALAGASY GOVERNMENT.

ALL THE ABOVE, OF COURSE, WOULD NOT POSSIBLE WITHOUT ACCESS TO THE STATION BY AMERICAN AND MALAGASY EMPLOYEES OF THE STATION AND THE FULL COOPERATION OF THE MALAGASY GOVERNMENT. IT IS NOT THE INTENTION OF THE EMBASSY TO SAY ANYTHING PUBLICLY CONCERNING THE CONTENT OF OUR DISCUSSION HERE TODAY. AS THE AMERICAN CHARGE D'AFFAIRES I AM PARTICULARLY CONCERNED

ABOUT THE SAFETY AND WELLBEING OF ALL AMERICANS IN MADAGASCAR WHICH I SEE AS MY MAJOR RESPONSIBILITY AT THIS TIME. THAT RESPONSIBILITY, HOWEVER, IS SHARED WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE MALAGASY REPUBLIC. I HAVE NO INTENTION OF IN ANY WAY CONTRADICTING PUBLICLY ANY STATEMENTS MADE BY THE MALAGASY GOVERNMENT OR PRESIDENT RATSIRAKA UNTIL NOW, AS I HAVE NO DESIRE TO INFLAME PUBLIC OPINION. I WOULD HOPE THAT THE MALAGASY GOVERNMENT WOULD SHARE THAT DESIRE. THE PURPOSE OF MY BRIEF PUBLIC STATEMENT TO THE PRESS IS DESIGNED EXACTLY WITH THESE CONCERNS IN MIND AND TO STATE PUBLICLY THAT BOTH THE EMBASSY AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES BELIEVE THAT MANY AREAS FOR COOPERATION AND AGREEMENT BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES CONTINUE TO EXIST. END QUOTE.

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BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED:

2. THE FOLLOWING IS A PRESS STATEMENT RELEASED TODAY:
QUOTE: THE RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO THE ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE MALAGASY GOVERNMENT CONCERNING THE NASA STATION AS BEEN TRANSMITTED TO THE MALAGASY GOVERNMENT. IT IS UP TO THE MALAGASY GOVERNMENT TO MAKE ANY FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENT.

PERMIT ME TO SAY, HOWEVER, THAT A SINGLE DISAGREEMENT NEED NOT BE THE PRELUDE TO SOMETHING LESS THAN AMIABLE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. AMERICAN-MALAGSY RELATIONS BEGAN IN 1866. SINCE THEN THERE HAVE BEEN MANY CHANGES IN BOTH COUNTRIES BUT FRIENDLY RELATIONS HAVE PERSISTED. IT IS EASY TO FIND MANY EXAMPLES OF AMERICAN COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH COUNTRIES THAT HAVE DIFFERENT POLITICAL SYSTEMS THAN OUR OWN. FOR EXAMPLE, TOMORROW THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES WILL BEGIN THE APOLLO-SOYUZ MISSION. HERE IN TANANARIVE THE SOVIET CHARGE D'AFFAIRES AND I WILL LIFT OUR GLASSES TOGETHER TO SALUTE THE SUCCESS OF APOLLO-SOYUZ WITH VODKA AND BOURBON.

LET
ME ASSURE YOU THAT AREAS OF AGREEMENT AND COOPERATION

ALSO CONTINUE TO EXIST BETWEEN MADAGASCAR AND THE UNITED STATES.

END QUOTE. END UNCLASSIFIED.

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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